
JSPS ALUMNI CLUB DENMARK – NEWSLETTER NO. 2, August 2020

HAPPY SUMMER FROM THE NEW CHAIR

Dear JSPS ACD members,

I was elected new chair at the last general assembly, in fact a new board was elected, you can find all of us at the JSPS ACD home page here <https://www.jspsto.com/alumni-club-3/alumni-club-in-denmark/> - you need to scroll to the bottom of the page to find us.

As well as expressing thanks to the new board members for joining or continuing on the board, I wish to thank our previous chair for many years, Carl Winslow, as well as the previous board for all their work over the years.

Almost immediately after formation of the new board, Denmark locked down. I apologize for the silence but it has been a very strange spring for most of us but we are now getting back in gear. The new board met virtually on 6. July and you can expect to hear a lot more about us in the future.

I take this opportunity to wish you a good summer wherever and however you are spending it and look forward to more years of contact with all of you who share with the board a long term interest in exchanges between Denmark and Japan!

Leila Lo Leggio

THANKS TO JARA 2020 ORGANIZERS

A very successful JARA 2020 (Japan Alumni and Researcher Assembly) was held on 6th March 2020 at the University of Copenhagen Southern Campus, just before the danish lock-down. JARA is the major event organised by ACD and is a collaboration between JSPS, the japanese embassy in Denmark, and Tokai University Alumni association in Denmark. Despite the world situation, 4 out of 5 of the original speakers (Michio Hayashi, Mette Sandbye, Tania Ørum and Karen Harsbo) were able to be present and gave talks within the theme 'Transnational exchange in art and design'. Even not taking circumstances into account, the turnout was excellent. Thanks in particular to the main organizer, Associate Professor Gunhild Borggreen from the University of Copenhagen, but also all the helpers, speakers and attendance for a successful event.

COVID-19 DELAYS PLANNED ACD ACTIVITIES

Unfortunately the spreading of coronavirus and consequent lock down will impact on the ACD activities. The BRIDGE fellowship visit planned for October 2020 is now tentatively

postponed to March 2021. Likewise, the planned ACD seminar will not be run in August 2020 and is currently under rescheduling. The board will do everything possible to run JARA 2021 in early 2021, as a live event insofar this will be possible or as a virtual/hybrid event otherwise. If you have an idea for a virtual seminar - perhaps by a Japanese collaborator, or indeed would like to speak yourself about your collaborative work with Japanese researchers, please contact the board chair (leila@chem.ku.dk). The board is happy to promote suitable virtual events that can keep the networking going.

HELP US TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

JSPS ACD needs new members! We lost at least 10 old members in the GDPR process. Regular members need to be JSPS alumni, that is received a JSPS grant before. However, and interest in research/educational collaboration with Japan is enough to be an associate member and while associate members are not eligible for ACD earmarked grants, they still are welcome at event and receive information about regular, open JSPS grants. If you have someone whom you think could benefit from being a member, please send them a link to the application page here:

<https://www.jsps-sto.com/alumni-club-3/application-for-membership-4/>